

Faith United Church of Christ

An Open and Affirming Congregation

No Matter who you are, or where you are in life's journey,
You are welcome here!

October 20, 2019

Sacred Fellowship 10:45 AM

19th Sunday After Pentecost

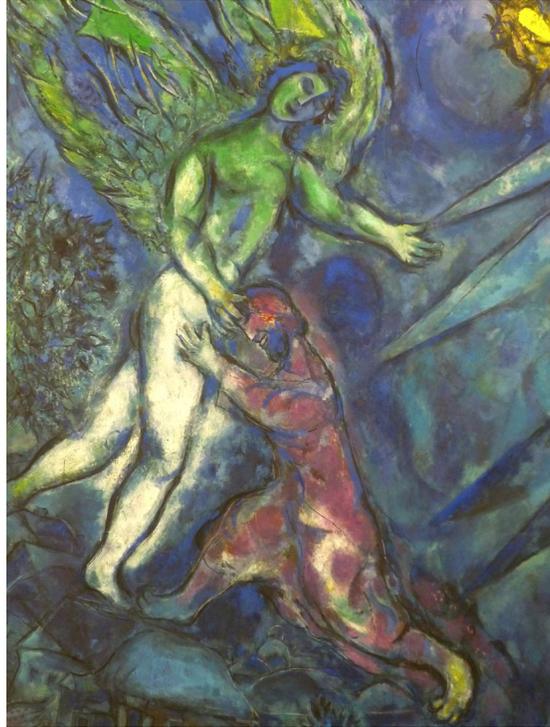


Image: Marc Chagall, 1887-1985, [Jacob Wrestling with the Angel](#)

*stand as you are able

Prelude "I Call to Thee, Lord Jesus Christ" J. S. Bach

Pastoral Welcome

Come to me all of you who are weary and I will give you rest. - Jesus

Announcements

Call to Worship

Leader: We have gathered in God's holy presence, the One who etches grace in our hearts.

People: This is the place where God will transform us into disciples.

L: We glorify our God in our singing and praying together.

P: This is the place where God will write compassion on our souls.

We give thanks to God for unceasing grace; we remember God's persistence in saving us.

This is the place where God will breathe the Word into our lives.

***Opening Hymn**

Be Now my Vision

#451

***Prayer of Confession**

Seeking to follow Jesus, we often wander down the wrong roads. Impatient with God's schedule, we rush off to do things our way. Let us confess our foolishness, that we might receive God's hope for our lives.

Your words are given to us, Author of Life, so we might be reformed, but we are intent on changing others. Your words are offered to us so we might be transformed, but we are focused on conforming to our culture. Your words are spoken to lead us into new life, but we hold our old ways tight to our chests.

Forgive us, God of Wonder. Do not remember our sins, but continue to guide us with your steadfast mercy. Show us how to be persistent in living out our faith, even as you were so tenacious in offering us your grace and life in Jesus Christ, our Lord and Savior.

Moment of Silence for Personal Reflection

***Promise of New Life**

Jesus reminds us that we are to be resolute in our lives of faithfulness and service. The good news is that God is steadfast in filling us with love and grace.

We are forgiven people. May we live as siblings in Christ, God's children in word and deed, in hope and joy. Thanks be to God. Amen.

***Sung Response**

Come and Find the Quiet Center

Come and find the quiet center in the crowded life we lead,
Find the room for hope to enter, find the frame where we are freed:
Clear the chaos and the clutter, clear our eyes, that we can see
All the things that really matter, be at peace, and simply be.

***Sharing Christ's Peace**

L: The Peace of Christ be with you.

P: And also with you.

(As a sign of our reconciliation with God and with one another greet and welcome those around you and share "the peace of Christ." If you feel more comfortable you are welcome to place your hands on your heart as you greet those around you. This may be a good option for you if you have social anxiety or are more introverted, this is a symbol of goodwill that you may be more comfortable with. Sharing God's peace can be done in many ways!)

A Time for All God's Children

Following the Children's message, the nursery is available for infants and toddlers under 4 years old. The nursery is located through the door at the right front of the sanctuary, and up the stairs. Church school is available for children and youth (4+ years) in Asendorf Hall (3rd floor). Children are always welcome to remain in the worship service.

Reading of Scripture

Genesis 32:22-31

Luke 18:1-8

L: A word from the Lord.

P: Thanks be to God.

Anthem "Shall We Gather At the River" by John Carter

Sermon Don't Lose Heart

***Hymn** Take My Life, God, Let It Be

#448

Prayers of the People

We invite people to share their joys and/or concerns out loud so we can be praying for each other. We believe that each joy and/or concern expressed is indeed a prayer.

After each expression, please end your prayer by saying *This is my prayer* and the people may respond: *God, hear our prayer.*

In the strength of our faith we pray together the prayer Jesus, who loves us and calls us by name, taught us to pray....

The Lord's Prayer

Ever loving God, who art in heaven, hallowed be Thy name. Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For Thine is the kingdom, the power, and the glory forever. Amen.

Offertory

Offering

*Doxology

P: Praise God from whom all blessings flow; Praise God all creatures here below; Praise God above ye heavenly host; Creator, Christ, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

*Prayer of Dedication

We offer our time, talent, and treasurers to be part of the movement of God's love. No matter how small or large, these gifts matter. Bless them to bring justice and to offer mercy as a light of guidance in a world in need of hope. Amen.

*Closing Hymn

There's a Spirit in the Air

#294

(vs. 1-4)

*Blessing

Postlude

Presto from Organ Concerto in F Major, Op. 4, no. 5,

G. F. Handel

Our worship is fulfilled, and our purpose is confirmed,
through our service as God's stewards to the world and all creation.
Use the blessings God has given you as you share
the joy in your heart, the wisdom in your mind,
the love in your spirit, and the peace in your soul.

Thank you for sharing sacred fellowship with us.



Welcome to all first-time (and returning) guests to Faith UCC! We would like to get to know you and for you to get to know us.

Join us after worship for coffee and **conversation**.

There is free parking on Sundays at the meters and at the McAllister & Pugh Street parking garages – so, we hope you'll worship with us again next Sunday!

Electronic Giving Options: During the offering time in the service, you may place your offerings on the plates the ushers will bring around. If you prefer to give electronically simply **scan the QR code** with your smartphone to be directed to our online donation page.



October Special Offering



Neighbors In Need (UCC)

Neighbors in Need (NIN) is a special mission offering of the United Church of Christ that supports ministries of justice and compassion throughout the United States.

You can learn more about them on their website: <https://www.ucc.org/nin>

Calendar items are listed in the Announcements.

If you'd like earphones for hearing assistance, please speak with an usher.

Faith UCC is an open and affirming church, embracing diversity in our congregation and community, and affirming the dignity and worth of every person. We are an inclusive community of faith that celebrates God's presence through worship and the sharing of God's word. We welcome all persons into the full life and ministry of the church, regardless of race, ethnic background, gender identity, sexual orientation, capability, or circumstance of life.

Our Ministry

Ministers — All the Congregation
Liturgist — Meridyth Lanza

Pastor - Jes Kast
Usher--Jane Child

Church Staff

Custodian — Scott Luzier
Organist—Mark Ferraguto

Church School Coordinator — Barbara Chellman
Choir Director — Marinda Jenkins
Administrative Assistant — Jeff Stormer

Prayers for healing and wholeness:

The family of Richard H. McCormack (Jane Lee Child's brother), the family of Beckie Romig (Manager for OOTC), the family of Don Asendorf, Patty Bittner (Jean's daughter), Dan and Eileen Pfaff, Lisa V. (John Vincenti's daughter), Darlene Ripka, the Piggot family.

Please help us keep this list up to date. Notify the office of additions or removals.

Get In Touch with Us!

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Pastor email: PastorJesFaithUCC@gmail.com

Church Office Hours: 9:30 AM– 1:30 PM Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday

Pastor Jes' office hours: 9-5 M-Th. Pastor also values community engagement.

Please contact the office ahead of visits.

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Prayer of Confession inspired by Thom Shuman